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# VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

WAYS FOR LIBERTY, AND THE PUBLICK GOOD.

ALEXANDER PURDIE, PRINTER.

AS I, *at preſent, am under the diſagreeable Neceſſity of printing my* GAZETTE *upon a Type uncommonly large, it will be proper for me to acquaint the Publick that the Quantity of Matter it would contain will not be diminiſhed upon that Account, as I ſhall never be ſparing of Paper when I am poſſeſſed of Materials that may deſerve their Attention. In a few Months, I expect to be as amply furniſhed with every Requiſite for carrying on my Buſineſs, in the beſt Manner, as any Printer upon the Continent. In the Meantime, as this Publication is not offered for a Specimen of what may be expected from me hereafter, I think it my Duty to aſſure the Publick, for whoſe Favour I am a Candidate, that neither Aſſiduity nor Expenſe ſhall be wanting to contribute either to their Information or Amuſement, ſo far as is in the Power of*

*Their moſt obliged*
*Humble Servant,*
ALEXANDER PURDIE.

*** The Expenſe of Poſtage being exceedingly burthenſome, I ſhall be much obliged to all thoſe who favour me with Advertiſements for this Paper either to pay the Poſtage of the Letters which accompany them, or to ſend them open by the Poſtman.

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A PAMPHLET, entitled "*A friendly Addreſs to all reaſonable* Americans, *on the ſubject of our political confuſions,*" gave birth to the following performance, addreſſed to the PEOPLE of AMERICA.

"*Let's canvaſs him in his broad Cardinal's hat.*"

SHAKESPEARE.

TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA.

A PAMPHLET, entitled *A friendly Addreſs to all reaſonable Americans*, adverti[ſed] and ſold by Mr. James Rivington of New York, is of ſo extraordinary a nature that it is difficult for any man, who is intereſted in the welfare of the community (whatever contempt he may have for the performance) to remain ſilent. I know not whether the author is a layman or eccleſiaſtick, but he bears ſtrongly the characters of the latter: He has the want of candour and truth, the apparent ſpirit of perſecution, the unforgivingneſs, the deadly hatred to diſſenters, and the zeal for arbitrary power, which has diſtinguiſhed churchmen in all ages, and more particularly the *high* part of the church of England. I cannot help, therefore, conſidering him as one of this order.

The deſign of his Reverence's pamphlet is manifeſtly to diſſolve the ſpirit of union, and check the noble ardour, prevailing through the continent; but his zeal ſo far outruns his abilities, that there is the leaſt reaſon to think that he has labour[ed] to little effect. His diſcretion ſeems to be leſs, than his genius; a man of common judgment would not ſo [wan]tonly have attacked the general reigning principles and opinions of a people whom he intends to ſeduce or intimidate out of their rights and privileges. For inſtance, I believe there are at leaſt ninety nine Americans in a hundred who think that Charles I. was an execrable tyrant; that he met with no harder fate than he deſerved; and that his two ſons ought, in juſtice, to have made the ſame exit. To deſcant, therefore, on the criminality of the reſiſtance made to that tyrant; to affect, on every occaſion, giving the title of rebellion to the civil war which brought him to juſtice, is a degree of weakneſs which no man, who is not blinded by the demon of Jacobitiſm, could poſſibly be guilty of. But to preach up in this enlightened age (as he does, in almoſt expreſs terms) paſſive obedience, is a mark of lunacy, or at leaſt it proves that the moment a head begins to itch for a mitre it loſes the faculty of reaſoning; for if the principle of paſſive obedience is admitted, the gracious Prince, for whom his Reverence profeſſes ſo great a devotion, is a downright uſurper, and the Parliament, of which he ſpeaks ſo reſpectfully, Lords and Commons, are rebels and traitors.

The doctrines he aims to inculcate are as follow: *That the Parliament has a right to tax you without your conſent; that the duty upon tea is no tax; that this duty is your only grievance; that the cauſe of Boſton is their own concern; that it is not your cauſe; that the puniſhment of Boſton is a juſt puniſhment; that it is lenient; that it is not equal to their crimes; that the Boſtonians are rebels, traitors, and pampered fanaticks; that the Congreſs are little better; that no miſconduct of Adminiſtration can juſtify or excuſe open diſreſpect; that ſubmiſſion is to be paid to the higher powers, whatever character they be; that an Apoſtle enjoined ſubmiſſion to the tyrant Nero; that, of all people under heaven, the King's American ſubjects have the leaſt cauſe for complaint; that the preſent confuſion of the colonies has been occaſioned by falſe alarms; that none of your legal rights have been invaded; no injury has been done you, and conſequently that you can never be juſtified in reſenting that of which you have no reaſon to complain; that you are no judges of the rights of Parliament; that the Parliament ought to act according to their own judgment, not according to yours, even in things which concern you principally or ſolely; that they aſſert they have the right in queſtion; that you have never proved they have not; that you have always believed or allowed they have it, until the preſent occaſion; that the Quebeck bill is a juſt and conſtitutional bill; that the Canadians are likely to prove the beſt and moſt loyal ſubjects in his Majeſty's American dominions; that there is too much reaſon to believe that the minds of the Americans are unprincipled, and their hearts diſpoſed for rebellion; that, ſince the reduction of Canada, they have been bloated with a vain opinion of their own power and importance; that the iſland of Great Britain is able to govern* (that is to dragoon) *ten Americans; that the moment it is known that America is no longer under the protection of Great Britain, all the maritime powers of Europe would join to ravage your ſeaports, plunder and ſeize your ſhips, merely for the pleaſure of ravaging *; that all the maritime powers of the world would not diſpoſſeſs Great Britain of the empire of the ſea, even when America is ſeparated from her.* Now I challenge the world to produce ſo many wicked ſentiments, ſtupid principles, audaciouſly falſe aſſertions, and monſtrous abſurdities, crowded together into ſo ſmall a compaſs. All his poſitions, indeed, are ſo ſelf-evidently abſurd and falſe, that it would be an inſult to American underſtandings ſeriouſly to attempt refuting them. I ſhall only beg leave to take notice of the curious argument he uſes to prove the duty on tea to be no tax; it is, that *unleſs we conſent to the tax we are not to pay the duty, we may refuſe purchaſing it if we pleaſe.* The ſame logick would demonſtrate that a duty on beer, candles, or ſoap, would be no tax, as we are not abſolutely obliged to drink beer; we may drink water, we may go to bed before it is dark, and we are not forced to waſh our ſhirts. His aſſertion that Great Britain, when divorced from her colonies, will ſtill hold the empire of the ſeas, in ſpite of all the powers of the world, is ſtill more ingenious. It amounts to this, that *without the poſſible means of procuring timber, iron, plank, maſts, pitch, tar, or hemp, to furniſh out a ſingle frigate, they may build more ſhips than all the world put together; that when her nurſery for ſeamen is deſtroyed, and all the commerce on which the exiſtence of ſeamen depends is annihilated, they will then be able to man more fleets than the whole univerſe put together.* But I am aſhamed of treſpaſſing on the publick patience, in making ſtrictures on ſuch ridiculous articles, I ſhall therefore paſs to ſome queſtions which have not been ſo much agitated, and on which, if I miſtake not, his Reverence lays the greateſt ſtreſs; for, as he modeſtly declares that he has no opinion of your courage, it was natural for him to conſider intimidation and terrour as the moſt powerful figures of rhetorick. *Regular armies from Great Bri-*

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* *This is perhaps the moſt prepoſterous idea that ever was hatched in a diſtempered brain. America (more particularly ſince the diſtractions in Poland have taken place) has been the great granary, or* cella penaria, *of Europe. Is it poſſible to conceive that the different maritime powers ſhould unite to deprive themſelves of the chief means of ſubſiſtence, merely for the fun's ſake? Is it not more natural to ſuppoſe that they would outbid each each other for your friendſhip and commerce, on which ſo much depends? When the Low Countries withdrew themſelves from the dominion of Spain, did England, France, and the other powers, immediately ſet about ravaging their ſeaports and ſeizing their ſhips? Did they not, on the contrary, exert themſelves, directly and indirectly, to aſſiſt them? The caſe is ſimilar, the event would be ſimilar; and that Great Britain would not be powerful enough at ſea, when ſeparated from her colonies. To prevent this aſſiſtance, I ſhall refer my readers to Maſſie's Eſtimates, the authority of which has never been diſputed, and which demonſtrate that more than half the naval power of Great Britain ſtands on her American foundation.*

*tain, Heſſians, Hanoverians, royal ſtandard erected, ſkilful Generals, legions of Canadians, and unnumbered tribes of ſavages, ſwords flaming in the front and rear, peſtilence, deſolation and famine*, are all marſhalled in a moſt dreadful order by this church militant author. But let us ſomewhat minutely examine the picture, and ſee whether, ſtripped of its falſe colouring, it has any thing really terrifying. His Reverence begins with aſſuring us, that there is no room to doubt but that ſuch an army as was employed in the reduction of Canada (that is, an army of 7000 men) would be more than ſufficient for the conqueſt of all the diſaffected American colonies (which are, in fact, all the colonies) ſhould *ſuch* a reſolution become neceſſary in order to reduce them to obedience. For my own part, I think there is very great reaſon to doubt that 7000, even of the beſt troops, are able to conquer 200,000 of the moſt diſorderly peaſantry upon earth, if they are animated in defence of every thing they hold moſt dear and ſacred; and there is ſtill greater reaſon to doubt that 7000 very indifferent troops, compoſed of the refuſe of an exhauſted nation, few of whom have ſeen action of any kind, ſhould be able to conquer 200,000 active vigorous yeomanry, fired with the noble ardour we ſee prevalent through the continent, all armed, all expert in the uſe of arms almoſt from their cradles. The ſucceſs of Quebeck, it is true, does infinite honour to the Engliſh arms; the army was, I believe, only 7000; the enemy were perhaps more than double, but 15,000 men are not 200,000. The fate of Canada depended upon one deciſive action, but it is impoſſible to calculate how many victories muſt be gained before theſe colonies could be ſubdued, whereas a ſingle victory gained by the colonies muſt decide the conteſt in their favour. In the affair of Quebeck, there is another circumſtance to be conſidered; it was Wolfe who commanded, a man of the moſt wonderful talents, formed to level all difficulties, to render the moſt deſpicable ſoldiery almoſt inſtantaneouſly an army of heroes. In ſhort, the genius of the man was ſo extraordinary, the event was ſo extraordinary, that no inferences can be drawn from it; but this, without preſumption, may be aſſerted, that no general now exiſting in the Britiſh ſervice would, with double or treble his number, have ſucceeded in the ſame circumſtances.

One thing more I muſt add in honour of that illuſtrious perſonage, that the ſame greatneſs of ſoul which qualified him to conquer the natural hereditary enemies of his country would have made him reject with horrour the hangman's office; which others, who are not endowed with conquering attributes, will with readineſs accept.

It is notorious that Mr. Wolfe was not only the firſt of ſoldiers, but that he was a moſt liberal virtuous citizen; that he was paſſionately attached to the liberties of his country, and of mankind; and that he was particularly an enemy to large ſtanding armies, in time of peace. It is, on the other hand, remarkable, that all the advocates for ſtanding armies, all thoſe who are the fondeſt of the faddling and parade of war, are the moſt active in avoiding real ſervice.

This tremendous ſoothſayer, on the ſuppoſition that ſo great a miracle ſhould happen in our favour, as that the trifling body of 500,000 men, though firmly united (for every man in America, firmly united, would not amount to leſs) ſhould be able to withſtand his 7000, goes on to rattle in our ears armies of Heſſians and Hanoverians. I wiſh to Heaven he had for once deviated into probability and truth. I wiſh 10,000 of them could poſſibly be tranſported to-morrow. The purpoſe they would anſwer is a purpoſe devoutly to be wiſhed for, they would be an addition to this continent of juſt ſo many uſeful and excellent citizens; for I will venture to affirm (affirming is infectious) that in leſs than four months not two of theſe 10,000 would remain with their colours. But does not this Reverend Gentleman know, that in the year 1764 a convention was formed by moſt of the Princes of the Empire, at the head of which convention were the Emperour himſelf and the King of Pruſſia, to prevent the alarming emigrations which threatened depopulation to Germany? Does he not know that no troops can march out of the Empire without the conſent of the Empire? Does he not know that the Elector of Hanover and the Emperour are upon exceeding ill terms? Does he not know that the Elector of Hanover and the King of Pruſſia are ſtill upon worſe? Is he ſure that the Landgrave of Heſſe would ſell his Troops? For, as not one man would return back to their country, he muſt conſider them as for ever ſold. Is he ſure that, as the finances of Great Britain ſtand, the vaſt ſum neceſſary for this purchaſe would be conveniently found? Is he ſure that the ſtate of Hanover would conſent to ſuch a draining of their country? I know not how it is; but his Moſt Excellent Majeſty George III. who in England is juſtly eſteemed the moſt gracious of ſovereigns, the wiſeſt, greateſt, and beſt of Kings, is not very popular in the electorate of Hanover. Theſe people ſeem to think it hard that 270,000l. ſhould annually be drawn from them, for the purpoſes (as they conceive it) of corrupting the members of St. Stephen's chapel, in order to ſupport the power and authority of a ſet of men who from the beginning have been enemies to the ſucceſſion of the Hanover line, and who ſhewed a particular animoſity to their laſt and favourite Prince George II. But theſe difficulties (great and unſurmountable as to a common mortal they appear) our divine exorciſt has in an inſtant conjured down, and by a ſingle motion of his enchanted wand has tranſported whole armies, in ſpite of their reſpective Princes, and without the conſent of their reſpective ſtates, from the interiour parts of Germany acroſs the Atlantick into the plains of New England and Pennſylvania; but he does not confine himſelf to the introduction of his Germans. He proceeds next to erect the royal ſtandard, to which he tells us that all who have the courage to declare themſelves now friends to government will undoubtedly reſort; and theſe, he ſays, in a good cauſe, will be of themſelves formidable to their oppoſers. Dreadfully formidable they muſt be, indeed! There would reſort to it, let me ſee, (for the reſpectable town of Rye have declared themſelves a kind of neutrals, *rather than friends to government*) there would reſort to it, Mr. Juſtice Sewell, the Honourable Mr. Paxton, Brigadier Ruggles, and about eight or ten more mandamus Councilmen, with perhaps twice their number of expectants, and not leſs than twenty of the unrecanted Hutchinſonian addreſſers; theſe the four Provinces of New England alone would ſend forth. New York would furniſh ſix, ſeven, or probably eight volunteers, from a certain knot, who are in poſſeſſion or expectation of contracts, and the fourth part of a dozen of high-flying church of England romaniſed prieſts. I repreſent to myſelf the formidable countenance they will make, when arranged under the royal or miniſterial ſtandard; but what will add to the terrour of the appearance will be their Reverend Pontifex himſelf, whom I conceive marching in the front, an inquiſitorial frown upon his brow, his bands and canonicals floating to the air, bearing a croſs in his hands, with the tremendous motto, *In hoc ſigno vinces*, flaming upon it in capital letters of blood, leading them on, and exciting them to victory. It is impoſſible that men, who are not under an infatuation by the judgment of Heaven, ſhould flatter themſelves that 40,000 American yeomanry (for we are aſſured, by the ſame great authority, that more than 40,000 cannot be brought to action) ſhould ſtand the ſhock of this dreadful phalanx.

But I ſhould beg pardon for attempting to be ludicrous, upon a ſubject which demands our utmoſt indignation. I will now, therefore, on the preſumption that the people of England ſhould be ſo loſt to ſenſe, virtue, and ſpirit, as to ſuffer the profligate miſrulers to perſevere in their preſent meaſures, endeavour to ſtate to you what is their force, and what is yours. I ſhall endeavour to remove the falſe terrours which this writer would hold out in order to intimidate you from the defence of your liberties and thoſe of your poſterity, that he and his ſimilars may wallow in ſinecures and benefices heaped up from the fruits of your labour and induſtry.

Great Britain has, I believe, of infantry at home (comprehending Ireland, and excluſive of the guards) 15,000 men. They find the greateſt difficulty in keeping the regiments up to any thing near their eſtabliſhment; what they are able to procure are of the worſt ſort. They are compoſed of the moſt debauched weavers apprentices, the ſcum of the Iriſh Roman Catholicks, who deſert upon every occaſion, and a few Scotch, who are not ſtrong enough to carry packs. This is no exaggeration; thoſe who have been lately at Boſton repreſent the ſoldiers there (one or two regiments excepted) as very defective in ſize, and apparently in ſtrength. But we ſhall be told they are ſtill regulars, and regulars have an irreſiſtible advantage. There is, perhaps, more impoſition in the term *regular troops* than in any of the jargon which iſſues from the mouth of a quack doctor. I do not mean to inſinuate that a diſorderly mob are equal to a trained diſciplined body of men, but I mean that all the eſſentials neceſſary to form infantry for real ſervice may be acquired in a few months‖. I mean, that it is very poſſible for men to be clothed in red, to be expert in all the tricks of the parade, to call themſelves regular troops, and yet, by attaching themſelves principally or ſolely to the tinſel and ſhow of war, be totally unfit for real ſervice. This, I am told, is a good deal the caſe of the preſent Britiſh infantry: If they can acquit themſelves tolerably in the puerile reviews exhibited for the amuſement of royal maſters and miſſes in Hyde Park, or Wimbledon common, it is ſufficient.

In the beginning of the late war, ſome of the moſt eſteemed regular regiments were ſent over to this country; they were well dreſſed, they were well powdered, they were perfect maſters of their manual exerciſe, they fired together in platoons, but fatal experience taught us that they knew not how to fight. While your militia were frequently crowned with ſucceſs, theſe regulars were defeated or baffled for three years ſucceſſively, in every part of the continent. At length, indeed (after repeated loſſes and diſgraces) they became excellent troops, but not until they had abſolutely forgotten every thing which, we are aſſured, muſt render regulars quite irreſiſtible. The corps ſent from this country under General Monkton was, I believe, for its number, one of the beſt armies that ever was led to conqueſt, and yet, if I have been rightly informed, there was not

‖ *There cannot be a ſtronger illuſtration of the truth here advanced than the Pruſſian army. They are compoſed of about one third of the King's own ſubjects, two thirds foreigners. The third, conſiſting of his own ſubjects, are, when the exerciſing ſeaſon is over (which laſts ſix or ſeven weeks) ſuffered to return to their families, and attend to the buſineſs of huſbandry. Half of the other two thirds, conſiſting of foreigners, are not only permitted, but encouraged, to work at their trades in the garriſon towns, and never touch a muſket for the reſt of the year. So that, in fact, only one third are, in the modern language, to be called regular ſoldiers; theſe generally make their eſcape the firſt opportunity. It may be ſaid, that the King of Pruſſia has gained victories with a ſort of militia.*

J. P. A.
BINDERS.
LYNCHBURG, VA.

ſingle regiment of them that could go through the manual exerciſe, or at beſt they performed it moſt wretchedly. It is likewiſe ſaid, that when, after their glorious and rapid conqueſt of Martinico, they were joined by the ſpruce regiments from Europe, ſuch was their uncouth appearance that they were ſcarce honoured with the title of ſoldiers by thoſe Gentlemen. Upon the whole, it is moſt certain that men may be ſmartly dreſſed, keep their arms bright, be called regulars, be expert in all the anticks of a review, and yet be very unfit for real action. It is equally certain, that a militia, by confining themſelves to eſſentials, by a ſimplification of the neceſſary manœuvres, may become, in a very few months, a moſt formidable infantry. The yeomanry of America have, beſides, infinite advantages over the peaſantry of other countries; they are accuſtomed, from their infancy, to fire arms; they are expert in the uſe of them: Whereas the lower and middle people of England are, by the tyranny of certain laws, almoſt as ignorant in the uſe of a muſket as they are of the ancient catapulta. The Americans are likewiſe, to a man, ſkilful in the management of the inſtruments neceſſary for all military works; ſuch as ſpades, pickaxes, hatchets, &c. Taking, therefore, all circumſtances into conſideration, there will be no raſhneſs in affirming, that this continent may have formed for action, in three or four months, 100,000 infantry; for as to the aſſertion of one friendly adviſer, *that no more than* 40,000 *could act to advantage*, I confeſs I do not underſtand it, nor does he, I believe, underſtand it himſelf. If he means that 60,000 men cannot be ranged in a field capable of containing only 40,000, we ſhall all agree with him; but how, in the operation of a war, upon a vaſt continent, double this number ſhould be a diſadvantage, I can have no conception.

Let one ſimple general plan be adopted for the formation and ſubdiviſion of your battalions; let them be inſtructed only in ſo much of the manual exerciſe as to prevent confuſion, and accidents in loading and firing; let them be taught to form, to retreat, to advance, to change their front, to rally by their colours; let them be taught to reduce themſelves from a line of fire to a line of impreſſion, that is, from two deep to four, ſix, or eight. This is all ſo eaſy, and ſimple, that it may be acquired in three months. Let ſome plan of this ſort be adopted, I ſay, and there is no doubt but that, in the time I have preſcribed, you may have an army on foot of 70, 80, or 100,000 men, equal to all the ſervices of war.

Should this be admitted, it will be ſtill objected that you have no able officers to conduct you. I do not know that you have; but is it certain that thoſe ſent to dragoon you have better? I have taken ſome pains to inform myſelf what methods theſe Gentlemen, ſaid to be bred to arms, take to qualify themſelves in a ſuperiour degree for the profeſſion. What is their rotine of inſtruction? Do they read much? I am aſſured that they do not. From books alone the theory of war can be acquired, and the Engliſh ſervice in times of peace affords them no practical leſſons; for mounting guard once or twice a week, or the preparation for the review of a ſingle regiment, can never be eſteemed as ſuch§.

§ *It is much to be lamented that the Gentlemen of the army do not apply more of the many leiſure hours they have upon their hands to reading. The majority of them are of a generous diſpoſition, which, did they cultivate, by converſing with the great hiſtorians and orators of antiquity, and the more liberal political writers of our own country, a ſtanding army would be ſomething leſs an object of jealouſy to all virtuous citizens. We might perhaps ſee them, inſtead of being advocates and partiſans of the preſent Miniſtry, a check upon their wickedneſs. I am inclined to think that few, or none of the officers, have condeſcended to inform themſelves of the merit of the preſent conteſt. Let me conjure them, for once, to read coolly and candidly the whole proceſs, afterwards to lay their hands upon their hearts, and anſwer, whether the people of America in general, and of Boſton in particular, are more ſinned againſt or ſinning?*

*Now I am upon the ſubject of the officers of the army, I take the opportunity of mentioning, with the reſpect due to him, one Gentleman of high rank among them. His general conduct while in command was ſo liberal, and his letters, quoted in the Houſe of Commons, were ſo fair, candid, and friendly to the continent, that he is entitled to the thanks of America. He is indeed of a country that owes not only its proſperity, but its exiſtence, to the ſame principles which actuate America.*

Another circumſtance, Americans, may be added for your comfort. It has been allowed, by ſome of the moſt candid of the regulars themſelves, that during the laſt war upon this continent your countrymen, the provincial field officers, were in general more underſtanding and capable than their own of the ſame rank. But the hiſtory of the civil war in the year 1641 furniſhes us with the ſtrongeſt inſtances that excellent officers may be ſoon formed from country Gentlemen, citizens, lawyers, and farmers. The Parliament's army (or, as our prieſtly writer would call them, the rebellious republicans) were chiefly compoſed of this claſs of men. In the beginning of this war, they were treated with the ſame affected contempt, and almoſt in the ſame opprobious terms, as you, the people of America, are by your friendly and decent adviſer.

Whoever would infer from the tenour of theſe papers that the writer is deſirous of precipitating, or could look with indifference upon the calamities of a civil war, does him great injuſtice. He conſiders them with all the horrour natural to a feeling man and honeſt citizen. He execrates the memory of thoſe men to whom they may juſtly be attributed, but he is perſuaded that they never originated (at leaſt in ſtates of any conſiderable extent) in the turbulent diſpoſitions of the people, nor in the arts of demagogues, but in the oppreſſion of their rulers, in the wantonneſs, folly, pride, or avarice of Kings, Miniſters, or Governours. The Griſlers of Switzerland, the Granvels of Holland, the Lauds and Straffords of England, were the undoubted authors of the tragedies acted in their reſpective countries; and if this continent ſhould be ſtained with the blood of a ſingle citizen, it can never be charged to the unreaſonable pretenſions of the people, but to the Barnards, Hutchinſons, and ſome other traitors of a ſimilar ſtamp.

He is convinced, that being prepared for a civil war is the ſureſt means of preventing it; that to keep the ſwords of your enemies in their ſcabbards, you muſt whet your own. He is convinced, that remonſtrances, petitions, prayers, and ſupplications, will make no impreſſions on our callous Court and abandoned Parliament. England, Ireland, America, even Guernſey, Jerſey, and Minorca, are witneſſes of their inefficacy. He is convinced, that fear alone can operate; there are ſymptoms that it already begins to operate. The monſter tyranny already begins to pant; preſs her now with ardour, and ſhe is down. Already the Miniſtry have expreſſed in their letters an inclination to make ſome conceſſions, to meet you half way; which I ſuppoſe may be conſtrued thus, "that as they find they have it not "in their power to eſtabliſh, by force, the "deſpotiſm which they aimed at, they "ſhall be very well ſatisfied if you will juſt "cede ſo much of your rights and privi"leges as will enable them, by extending "their pecuniary influence, and ſapping "your virtue, to take away the reſt at "their leiſure."

There now remains, people of America, one conſideration, which (however it may be taken) I think it my duty to offer. Hiſtory tells us that the free ſtates of Greece, Thebes, Sparta, Athens, and Syracuſe, were all, in their turns, ſubjugated by the force or art of tyrants. They almoſt all, in their turns, recovered their liberty, and deſtroyed their tyrants. The firſt act, upon the recovery of their liberty, was to demoliſh thoſe badges of ſlavery, citadels, ſtrong holds, and military tenements; the Switzers did the ſame; the people of England (loſt in corruption and lethargy as they are) could never be prevailed upon to ſuffer barracks amongſt them; even the courtly Blackſtone is ſtartled at the idea. No ſeparate camps, no barracks, no inland fortreſſes, ſays he, ſhould be allowed; in fact, wherever barracks are, freedom cannot be ſaid to exiſt, or ſhe exiſts ſo lamely as ſcarcely to deſerve the name.

It is worth your conſideration, Americans, whether theſe badges ſhould remain or no. I ſhall now conclude, brave citizens, with invoking the Almighty God, from whom all virtues flow, to continue you in that ſpirit of unanimity and vigour which muſt enſure your ſucceſs, and immortalize you, through all ages, as the champions and patrons of the human race.

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PETERSBURG, *October* 28.

WE learn from Moſcow, that they are in hourly expectation of the arrival of Pugatchew, at that ancient capital. He keeps a profound ſilence, and ſeems to be in a deſpairing ſtate. He is cloſely watched, to prevent his deſtroying himſelf, and is faſtened down to the bottom of his cage. He for ſome time refuſed all food, but was at length made to take ſome nouriſhment againſt his will. For ſeveral days before he was ſeized he was in a moſt deplorable ſituation, and was ſo diſtreſſed for ſubſiſtence that he lived on ſuch roots as he found in the country, and was obliged to kill his own horſe.

HAGUE, *November* 18. A ſhip is ſaid to have ſailed a few days ago, from the Texel, with arms and ammunition for Boſton. The troops deſtined for Surinam are embarked.

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LONDON, *November* 15.

BETS were laid on Saturday night, at a coffeehouſe in the neighbourhood of St. James's, of three to two, that the American acts will be totally repealed by New Year's day next.

Inſtructions were ſent, a few days ſince, to our Ambaſſadour at Paris, to requeſt the French Miniſtry to take proper methods for preventing the ſhips and veſſels of that nation carrying on a contraband trade in any of the ports of America.

The Cabinet has not been ſo completely embarraſſed, for theſe twenty years, as at preſent; for if the American bills of laſt ſeſſion ſhould be repealed, the Adminiſtration muſt not only come to pieces, but it will likewiſe involve in it the ruin of that power which thirteen years unremitting endeavours have been employed to eſtabliſh.

A correſpondent, who pretends to ſpeak from the beſt authority, aſſures us that meaſures of the moſt lenient and conciliating nature, relative to our diſputes with America, are already determined on, and that conſequently all the views of a deſpairing vanquiſhed faction will be totally defeated.

*Nov.* 17. By the will of the Dutcheſs of Douglas, ſhe left 10,000l. to Duke Hamilton, and 7000 l. a year to young Mr. Douglas.

At the ſale, by auction, of the late Duke of Kingſton's live ſtock, three of his Grace's favourite pointing dogs were ſold for 111 guineas.

*Nov.* 19. Circular letters have already been ſent to a great number of members of Parliament to give their early attendance in Parliament, which will meet the 29th inſtant, for the deſpatch of buſineſs.

We are told that offers of a very unexpected nature have been made, in the courſe of the ſummer, to a certain celebrated Iriſh orator.

*Nov.* 25. A Council is ſummoned for to-morrow evening at Lord Gower's, at Whitehall, when it is ſuppoſed a certain ſpeech will be produced, and heads of an addreſs agreed to on the part of the Upper Aſſembly; the ſame will be taken into conſideration in Downing ſtreet, for the other Aſſembly.

We hear Lord North builds great hopes of acquiring a conſiderable ſhare of popularity, by introducing ſeveral bills into the Houſe of Commons the enſuing ſeſſion for reducing the price of proviſions.

Tueſday, in the afternoon, died at his houſe in Berkeley ſquare the Right Hon. Robert Lord Clive of Plaſſey, in the kingdom of Ireland, Lord Lieutenant and Cuſtos Rotulorum of the counties of Salop and Montgomery, Knight of the Bath, and Major General in the Eaſt Indies, Repreſentative in Parliament for the town of Shrewſbury, L. L. D. and F. R. S.

*Extract of a letter from* NORWICH,

*November* 21, 1774.

"The preſent cruel and unnatural American war is a moſt fatal blow to the manufactories of every town and city in the kingdom, particularly to the woollen manufactory of this place; what the dreadful conſequences will be, I tremble to think of. The ruin of the coloniſts muſt unavoidably be the ruin of ourſelves; if we can have no remittances, we muſt become bankrupts; if we can obtain no orders, our numerous dependents of combers, dyers, hot-preſſers, &c. muſt be the ſame; and as to our poor unhappy journeymen, they have no other proſpect, no other alternative, than the workhouſe, or ſtarving.

Since the non-importation agreement of the General Congreſs has been known, very conſiderable orders for coarſe camblets, and ſtriped calimancoes, have been countermanded by the merchants and warehouſemen in London; whoſe ſituation, on that account, muſt be very diſagreeable, and who, like us, are no doubt repining at their loſs, and execrating the men whoſe meaſures occaſioned it. Was it not for a tolerable German, Spaniſh, and Italian trade, we ſhould be without employment; the inſtant that fails, the diſtreſs of this great city will be inexpreſſible, and the cries and clamour of our innumerable poor reach the ears of a hard-hearted unfeeling miniſtry.

Had that great man, and profound politician, Lord Chatham, continued in office, we ſhould have continued to have enjoyed all the bleſſings of a wiſe and good government; England would have never fooliſhly taken up arms againſt herſelf, and paſſed the late ſix acts of ſuicide, that have aſtoniſhed the world, and kindled ſuch a flame in America. How much longer an unfeeling, arbitrary junčto, will be ſuffered to diſturb the repoſe of a good King, and to ſport with the lives, liberties, and properties of his faithful ſubjects, at home and abroad, time only can determine; but this I will venture to affirm, that unleſs a ſpeedy change of men and meaſures takes place a terrible convulſion in the ſtate will be the conſequence: For, as the before mentioned noble Lord juſtly obſerves, we have no right to tax America: their trade alone affords this nation four millions ſterling a year; and whenever the exigencies of our affairs have made a requiſition neceſſary, they have cheerfully complied with it, and ſometimes even granted more than we aſked for. What can juſtice with for, what can ſubjects do more? Better, far better, had it been for this kingdom, in the opinion of thouſands, that an unjuſt, oppreſſive Miniſtry, had periſhed in the Thames with the tea, before it was ſent to Boſton, than that they ſhould live to make the deſtruction of that dutied article, by a few raggamuffins, a pretence for trampling upon the rights and privileges of the coloniſts, and ruining the trade of Great Britain.

In a word, things are now come to a criſis; the whole nation is alarmed, and perſeverance in the violent meaſures that have been ſo long and ſo loudly complained of cannot fail to be productive of the moſt fatal events to this country."

The king has been pleaſed to appoint Lieutenant General James Murray to be Lieutenant Governour of Minorca, and Major General James Johnſtone to be Governour of Quebeck.

A foreign female ſinger is engaged to perform at the Pantheon, the enſuing ſeaſon, at the moderate ſum of 1200l. for 12 nights.

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NEW YORK, *January* 19.

TUESDAY the 10th inſtant the General Aſſembly of this province met here, agreeable to his Honour the Lieutenant Governour's proclamation; but a ſufficiency of members not appearing to make a houſe, they adjourned from day to day until Friday, when his Honour was pleaſed to open the ſeſſion with the following Speech.

*Gentlemen of the Council & Gen. Aſſembly,*

I THINK it unneceſſary, at this time, particularly to recommend to your attention the ordinary buſineſs of the legiſlature; whatever may be found conducive to the dignity of his Majeſty's government, or the happineſs of his people in this colony, I ſhall cheerfully promote.

*Gentlemen of the General Aſſembly,*

The ſupport of his Majeſty's government, and other allowances for his ſervice, I doubt not you will readily provide for.

*Gentlemen of the General Aſſembly,*

We cannot ſufficiently lament the preſent diſordered ſtate of the colonies. The diſpute between Great Britain and her American dominions is now brought to the moſt alarming criſis, and fills every humane breaſt with the deepeſt affliction. It is to you, Gentlemen, in this anxious moment, that your country looks up for counſel; and on you it, in a great meaſure, depends, to reſcue her from evils of the moſt ruinous tendency. Exert yourſelves then with the firmneſs becoming your important office. If your conſtituents are diſcontented and apprehenſive, examine their complaints with calmneſs and deliberation, and determine upon them with an honeſt impartiality. If you find them to be well grounded, purſue the means of redreſs which the conſtitution has pointed out: Supplicate the throne, and our moſt gracious ſovereign will hear and relieve you with paternal tenderneſs. But I entreat you, as you regard the happineſs of your country, to diſcountenance every meaſure which may increaſe our diſtreſs; and, anxious for the re-eſtabliſhment of harmony, with that power with which you are connected by the ties of blood, religion, intereſt, and duty, prove yourſelves, by your conduct on this occaſion, earneſtly ſolicitous for a cordial and permanent reconciliation.

*Gentlemen of the Council & Gen. Aſſembly,*

In the the abſence of our moſt worthy Governour in Chief, no leſs diſtinguiſhed by his extenſive abilities than his zeal for the honour of the Crown and his affection to the people of this province, and at ſo critical a conjuncture, it gives me great conſolation that I can repoſe the utmoſt confidence in your wiſdom, your attachment to the conſtitution, and your regard for the intereſt of the Britiſh empire; and you may be aſſured that my moſt ſtrenuous efforts ſhall be exerted to co-operate with you in reſtoring that tranquillity which muſt be the ardent deſire of every wiſe, virtuous, and loyal ſubject.

CADWALLADER COLDEN.

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WILLIAMSBURG, *Jan.* 20, 1775.

THE *ſeveral counties and corporations in this colony are requeſted to elect* DELEGATES *to repreſent them in convention, who are deſired to meet at the town of* Richmond, *in the county of* Henrico, *on* Monday *the* 20*th of* March *next.*

PEYTON RANDOLPH, Moderator.

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BENJAMIN BUCKTROUT,

Cabinet maker, in *Francis* ſtreet,

*WILLIAMSBURG,*

STILL carries on that buſineſs in all its branches, where Ladies and Gentlemen may be ſupplied with any ſort of cabinet work, in the beſt and neateſt manner. I return my moſt grateful thanks to thoſe Ladies and Gentlemen who were pleaſed to favour me with their commands, and hope for a continuance of their favour; which, to merit, ſhall always be the ſtudy of their moſt humble ſervant.

*** I ſhould be glad to take one or two apprentices, of bright geniuſes and good diſpoſition, and whoſe friends are willing to find them in clothes.

Five per cent. diſcount for ready money.

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*To be ſold, on* Wedneſday *the* 15*th of* February, *if fair, otherwiſe next fair day, on the land belonging to the ſubſcriber, adjoining Colonel* Robert Bolling's *land, on* Namozeen *creek, in* Dinwiddie *county,*

THIRTY *Virginia* born negroes, conſiſting of men, women, boys, and girls, with all the ſtocks of horſes, cattle, ſheep, and hogs, and all the corn, fodder, and implements of huſbandry on the plantation. Credit will be allowed on giving bond, with ſecurity, till the firſt day of *January* 1777; and if the bonds are not diſcharged within one month after they become due, they are to bear intereſt from the date.

ABRAHAM SMITH.
HENRY LOCHHEAD.

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*WANTED,*

AN apprentice to a ſtore, a young lad, of genteel parentage, with a tolerable good education, and about 15 years of age. Such a perſon, coming well recommended, will meet with ſuitable encouragement by applying to the printer.

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RUN away from the ſubſcriber, in *Stafford* county, near *Boyd's Hole*, the 27th of *Auguſt* laſt, a negro fellow named HARRY, *Virginia* born, about five feet high, remarkably black, and is very fond of playing on the fiddle, though but a poor hand. Whoever apprehends the ſaid negro, and conveys him to me, ſhall have 3l. reward beſides what the law allows.

TOWNSHEND DADE.

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WILLIAMSBURG, *Feb.* 3, 1775.

COMMITTED to the publick jail, a runaway negro man named *Goliah*. He ſays he belongs to Mr. *John Jones* of *Hampton*, is about 23 years old, middle ſize, and his clothing ſuch as field negroes commonly wear. His owner is deſired to apply for him, and pay charges.

tf PETER PELHAM.

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TAKEN up, in *Halifax*, two MARES, one a black about ten years old, four feet five or ſix inches high, a blaze face, ſome ſaddle ſpots, a white ſpot on her left hip, trots and paces, and branded on the near buttock I B. The other is a light gray, about twelve years old, four feet four inches high, trots and paces, has no brand, but had a ſmall bell tied on with a rope. Poſted and appraiſed, the back to 8l. and the gray to 5l.

NIMROD FERGUSON.

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TAKEN up, in *Halifax*, a black HORSE about three years old, four feet five inches high, a few white hairs in his forehead, part of his off hind foot white, and branded on the near ſhoulder B. Poſted, and appraiſed to 5l.

GEORGE BROWN.


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ARTICLES of Intelligence, Eſſays, Advertiſements, *&c.* are thankfully received for this Paper, the Price of which is 12*ſ.* 6*d.* per Annum, Advertiſements inſerted as uſual. PRINTING WORK done with Care and Expedition, and on reaſonable Terms.

FEBRUARY 3, 1775.

# SUPPLEMENT.

No. 1.

*The following is a true and genuine copy of the petition of the American Continental Congreſs to his Majeſty.*

*To the* KING'*s Moſt Excellent Majeſty.*

*Moſt gracious Sovereign,*

WE your MAJESTY'S faithful ſubjects of the colonies of New Hampſhire, Maſſachuſetts Bay, Rhode Iſland, and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jerſey, Pennſylvania, the counties of New caſtle, Kent, and Suſſex on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, in behalf of ourſelves and the inhabitants of thoſe colonies who have deputed us to repreſent them in General Congreſs, by this our humble petition beg leave to lay our grievances before the Throne.

A ſtanding army has been kept in theſe colonies ever ſince the concluſion of the late war, without the conſent of our Aſſemblies; and this army, with a conſiderable naval armament, has been employed to enforce the collection of taxes.

The authority of the Commander in Chief, and, under him, of the Brigadiers General, has, in times of peace, been rendered ſupreme in all the civil governments in America.

The Commander in Chief of all your Majeſty's forces in North America has, in time of peace, been appointed Governour of a Colony.

The charges of uſual offices have been greatly increaſed, and new, expenſive, and oppreſſive offices, have been multiplied.

The judges of Admiralty and Vice Admiralty courts are empowered to receive their ſalaries and fees from the effects condemned by themſelves.

The Officers of the Cuſtoms are empowered to break open and enter houſes without the authority of any civil magiſtrate, founded on legal informations.

The Judges of Courts of Common Law have been made entirely dependent on one part of the legiſlature for their ſalaries, as well as for the duration of their commiſſions.

Counſellors, holding their commiſſions during pleaſure, exerciſe legiſlative authority.

Humble and reaſonable petitions from the Repreſentatives of the people have been fruitleſs.

The Agents of the people have been diſcountenanced, and Governours have been inſtructed to prevent the payment of their ſalaries.

Aſſemblies have been repeatedly and injuriouſly diſſolved.

Commerce has been burthened with many uſeleſs and oppreſſive reſtrictions.

By ſeveral acts of Parliament, made in the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th years of your Majeſty's reign, duties are impoſed on us for the purpoſe of raiſing a revenue, and the powers of Admiralty and Vice Admiralty courts are extended beyond their ancient limits, whereby our property is taken from us without our conſent, the trial by jury in many civil caſes is aboliſhed, enormous forfeitures are incurred for ſlight offences, vexatious informers are exempted from paying damages, to which they are juſtly liable, and oppreſſive ſecurity is required from owners before they are allowed to defend their rights.

Both Houſes of Parliament have reſolved that coloniſts may be tried in England for offences alledged to have been committed in America, by virtue of a ſtatute paſſed in the 35th year of Henry VIII. and in conſequence thereof attempts have been made to enforce that ſtatute.

A ſtatute was paſſed in the 12th year of your Majeſty's reign, directing that perſons charged with committing any offence therein deſcribed, in any place out of the realm, may be indicted and tried for the ſame in any ſhire or county within the realm; whereby inhabitants of theſe colonies may, in ſundry caſes by that ſtatute made capital, be deprived of a trial by their peers of the vicinage.

In the laſt ſeſſion of Parliament, an act was paſſed for blocking up the harbour of Boſton; another empowering the Governour of the Maſſachuſetts Bay to ſend perſons indicted for murder in that province to another colony, or even to Great Britain, for trial, whereby ſuch offenders may eſcape legal puniſhment; a third, for altering the chartered conſtitution of government in that province; and a fourth, for extending the limits of Quebeck, aboliſhing the Engliſh and reſtoring the French laws, whereby great numbers of Britiſh freemen are ſubjected to the latter, and eſtabliſhing an abſolute government and the Roman Catholick religion throughout thoſe vaſt regions, that border on the weſterly and northerly boundaries of the free Proteſtant Engliſh ſettlements; and a fifth, for the better providing ſuitable quarters for officers and ſoldiers in your Majeſty's ſervice in North America.

To a ſovereign, who "glories in the name of Briton," the bare recital of theſe acts muſt, we preſume, juſtify the loyal ſubjects who fly to the foot of his throne and implore his clemency for protection againſt them. From this deſtructive ſyſtem of colony adminiſtration, adopted ſince the concluſion of the laſt war, have flowed thoſe diſtreſſes, dangers, fears, and jealouſies, that overwhelm your Majeſty's dutiful coloniſts with affliction; and we defy our moſt ſubtle and inveterate enemies to trace the unhappy differences between Great Britain and theſe colonies from an earlier period, or from other cauſes than we have aſſigned. Had they proceeded, on our part, from a reſtleſs levity of temper, unjuſt impulſes of ambition, or artful ſuggeſtions of ſeditious perſons, we ſhould merit the opprobious terms frequently beſtowed upon us by thoſe we revere; but, ſo far from promoting innovations, we have only oppoſed them, and can be charged with no offence, unleſs it be one, to receive injuries, and be ſenſible of them.

Had our Creator been pleaſed to give us exiſtence in a land of ſlavery, the ſenſe of our condition might have been mitigated by ignorance and habit; but, thanks to his adorable goodneſs, we were born the heirs of freedom, and even enjoyed our right under the auſpices of your royal anceſtors, whoſe family was ſeated on the Britiſh throne to reſcue and ſecure a pious and gallant nation from the Popery and deſpotiſm of a ſuperſtitious and inexorable tyrant. Your Majeſty, we are confident, juſtly rejoices that your title to the crown is thus founded on the title of your people to liberty; and therefore we doubt not but your royal wiſdom muſt approve the ſenſibility that teaches your ſubjects anxiouſly to guard the bleſſing they received from Divine Providence, and thereby to prove the performance of that compact which elevated the illuſtrious houſe of Brunſwick to the imperial dignity it now poſſeſſes.

The apprehenſion of being degraded into a ſtate of ſervitude from the preeminent rank of Engliſh freemen, while our minds retain the ſtrongeſt love of liberty, and clearly foreſee the miſeries preparing for us and our poſterity, excites emotions in our breaſts, which, though we cannot deſcribe, we ſhould not wiſh to conceal. Feeling as men, and thinking as ſubjects, in the manner we do, ſilence would be diſloyalty. By giving this faithful information, we do all in our power to promote the great objects of your royal cares, the tranquillity of your government, and the welfare of your people.

Duty to your Majeſty, and regard for the preſervation of ourſelves and our poſterity, the primary obligations of nature and of ſociety command us to entreat your royal attention; and as your Majeſty enjoys the ſignal diſtinction of reigning over freemen, we apprehend the language of freemen cannot be diſpleaſing. Your royal indignation, we hope, will rather fall on thoſe deſigning and dangerous men who, daringly interpoſing themſelves between your royal perſon and your faithful ſubjects, and for ſeveral years paſt inceſſantly employed to diſſolve the bonds of ſociety, by abuſing your Majeſty's authority, miſrepreſenting your American ſubjects, and proſecuting the moſt deſperate and irritating projects of oppreſſion, have at length compelled us, by the force of accumulated injuries, too ſevere to be any longer tolerable, to diſturb your Majeſty's repoſe by our complaints.

Theſe ſentiments are extorted from hearts that much more willingly would bleed in your Majeſty's ſervice; yet ſo greatly have we been miſrepreſented that a neceſſity has been alledged of taking our property from us without our conſent, "to defray the charge of the adminiſtration of juſtice, the ſupport of civil government, and the defence, protection, and ſecurity of the colonies." But we beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that ſuch proviſion has been, and will be

made, for defraying the two firſt articles, as have been and ſhall be judged, by the legiſlatures of the ſeveral colonies, juſt and ſuitable to their reſpective circumſtances; and for the defence, protection, and ſecurity of the colonies, their militias, if properly regulated, as they earneſtly deſire may immediately be done, would be fully ſufficient, at leaſt in times of peace; and in caſe of war, your faithful coloniſts will be ready and willing, as they ever have been, when conſtitutionally required, to demonſtrate their loyalty to your Majeſty, by exerting their moſt ſtrenuous efforts in granting ſupplies and raiſing forces. Yielding to no Britiſh ſubjects in affectionate attachment to your Majeſty, perſon, family, and government, we too dearly prize the privilege of expreſſing that attachment, by thoſe proofs that are honourable to the Prince who receives them, and to the people who give them, ever to reſign it to any body of men upon earth.

Had we been permitted to enjoy in quiet the inheritance left us by our forefathers, we ſhould at this time have been peaceably, cheerfully, and uſefully employed in recommending ourſelves by every teſtimony of devotion to your Majeſty, and of veneration to the ſtate from which we derive our origin; but though now expoſed to unexpected and unnatural ſcenes of diſtreſs, by a contention with that nation in whoſe parental guidance, on all important affairs, we have hitherto with filial reverence conſtantly truſted, and therefore can derive no inſtruction, in our preſent unhappy and perplexing circumſtances, from any former experience, yet we doubt not the purity of our intention, and the integrity of our conduct, will juſtify us at that grand tribunal before which all mankind muſt ſubmit to judgment.

We aſk but for peace, liberty, and ſafety. We wiſh not a diminution of the prerogative, nor do we ſolicit the grant of any new right in our favour. Your royal authority over us, and our connexion with Great Britain, we ſhall always carefully and zealouſly endeavour to ſupport and maintain.

Filled with ſentiments of duty to your Majeſty, and of affection to our parent ſtate, deeply impreſſed by our education, and ſtrongly confirmed by our reaſon, and anxious to evince the ſincerity of theſe diſpoſitions, we preſent this petition, only to obtain redreſs of grievances and relief from fears and jealouſies occaſioned by the ſyſtem of ſtatutes and regulations adopted ſince the cloſe of the late war, for raiſing a revenue in America, extending the power of courts of Admiralty and Vice Admiralty, trying perſons in Great Britain for offences alledged to be committed in America, affecting the province of Maſſachuſetts Bay, and altering the government and extending the limits of Quebeck; by the abolition of which ſyſtem the harmony between Great Britain and theſe colonies, ſo neceſſary to the happineſs of both, and ſo ardently deſired by the latter, and the uſual intercourſe will be immediately reſtored. In the magnanimity and juſtice of your Majeſty and Parliament we confide for a redreſs of our other grievances, truſting that when the cauſes of our apprehenſions are removed our future conduct will prove us not unworthy of the regard we have been accuſtomed, in our happier days, to enjoy; for, appealing to that Being who ſearches thoroughly the hearts of his creatures, we ſolemnly profeſs that our councils have been influenced by no other motive than a dread of impending deſtruction.

Permit us then, moſt gracious ſovereign, in the name of all your faithful people in America, with the utmoſt humility to implore you, for the honour of Almighty God, whoſe pure religion our enemies are undermining; for your glory, which can be advanced only by rendering your ſubjects happy and keeping them united; for the intereſt of your family, depending on an adherence to the principles that enthroned it; for the ſafety and welfare of your kingdom and dominions, threatened with almoſt unavoidable dangers and diſputes; that your Majeſty, as the loving father of your whole people, connected by the ſame bands of law, loyalty, faith, and blood, though dwelling in various countries, will not ſuffer the tranſcendent relation formed by theſe ties to be farther violated in uncertain expectation of effects, that, if attained, never can compenſate for the calamities through which they muſt be gained.

We therefore moſt earneſtly beſeech your Majeſty that your royal authority and interpoſition may be uſed for our relief, and that a gracious anſwer may be given to this petition.

That your Majeſty may enjoy every felicity, through a long and glorious reign over loyal and happy ſubjects, and that your deſcendents may inherit your proſperity and dominions, till time ſhall be no more, is, and always will be, our ſincere and fervent prayer. (a true copy)

CHARLES THOMPSON, Secretary.

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## LONDON, *November* 30.

*His Majeſty's moſt gracious* SPEECH *to both Houſes of Parliament.*

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

IT gives me much concern that I am obliged, at the opening of this Parliament, to inform you that a moſt daring ſpirit of reſiſtance and diſobedience to the law ſtill unhappily prevails in the province of the Maſſachuſetts Bay, and has, in divers parts of it, broke forth in freſh violences of a very criminal nature. Theſe proceedings have been countenanced and encouraged in other of my colonies, and unwarrantable attempts have been made to obſtruct the commerce of this kingdom, by unlawful combinations. I have taken ſuch meaſures, and given ſuch orders, as I judged moſt proper and effectual for carrying into execution the laws which were paſſed in the laſt ſeſſion of the late Parliament, for the protection and ſecurity of the commerce of my ſubjects, and for the reſtoring and preſerving peace, order, and good government, in the province of the Maſſachuſetts Bay; and you may depend upon my firm and ſtedfaſt reſolution to withſtand every attempt to weaken or impair the ſupreme authority of this Legiſlature over all the dominions of my Crown, the maintenance of which I conſider as eſſential to the dignity, the ſafety, and the welfare of the Britiſh empire, aſſuring myſelf that while I act upon theſe principles I ſhall never fail to receive your aſſiſtance and ſupport.

I have the greateſt ſatisfaction in being able to inform you that a treaty of peace is concluded between Ruſſia and the Porte. By this happy event, the troubles which have ſo long prevailed in one part of Europe are compoſed, and the general tranquillity rendered complete. It ſhall be my conſtant aim, and endeavour, to prevent the breaking out of freſh diſturbances; and I cannot but flatter myſelf I ſhall ſucceed, as I continue to receive the ſtrongeſt aſſurances from other powers of their being equally diſpoſed to preſerve the peace.

*Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,*

I have ordered the proper eſtimates, for the ſervice of the enſuing year, to be laid before you; and I doubt not but that, in this Houſe of Commons, I ſhall meet with the ſame affectionate confidence, and the ſame proofs of zeal and attachment to my perſon and government, which I have always, during the courſe of my reign, received from my faithful Commons.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

Let me particularly recommend to you, at this time, to proceed with temper in your deliberations, and with unanimity in your reſolutions. Let my people, in every part of my dominions, be taught, by your example, to have a due reverence for the laws, and a juſt ſenſe of the bleſſings of our excellent conſtitution. They may be aſſured, that, on my part, I have nothing ſo much at heart as the real proſperity, and laſting happineſs, of all my ſubjects.

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## WILLIAMSBURG, *February* 3.

THIS day, at the courthouſe, the inhabitants of this city unanimouſly made choice of the Hon. PEYTON RANDOLPH, Eſq; to repreſent them at the enſuing General Convention to be held in the town of Richmond.

Peter Lyons, Eſq; of Hanover County, had the misfortune to have his office burnt down laſt Tueſday night, containing many papers of conſequence to himſelf and others, beſides a number of valuable books, &c.

The following is the ſubſtance of a motion of the Houſe of Lords for an addreſs to the King, in anſwer to that part of his ſpeech which relates to America: "They declare their abhorrence and deteſtation of the daring ſpirit of reſiſtance and diſobedience to the laws which ſo ſtrongly prevails in the province of the Maſſachuſetts Bay, and of the unwarrantable attempts in that and other provinces of America to obſtruct, by unlawful combinations, the trade of the kingdom; they return his Majeſty their humble thanks for having been pleaſed to communicate to them that he has taken ſuch meaſures, and given ſuch orders, as he had judged moſt proper and effectal for the protection and ſecurity of the commerce of his ſubjects, and for carrying into execution the laws which were paſſed in the laſt ſeſſion of the late Parliament relative to the province of the Maſſachuſetts Bay; they expreſs their entire ſatisfaction in his Majeſty's firm and ſtedfaſt reſolution to continue to ſupport the ſupreme authority of the Legiſlature over all the dominions of his crown; and give his Majeſty the ſtrongeſt aſſurances that they will cheerfully co-operate in all ſuch meaſures as ſhall be neceſſary to maintain the dignity, ſafety, and welfare, of the Britiſh empire. [The reſt runs in the uſual ſtrain of all addreſſes, and little concerns the publick.]

Whereupon a proteſt was entered by nine of the Lords, viz. Richmond, Rockingham, Stanhope, Ponſonby, Camden, Portland, Stamford, Torrington, and Wycombe, to the following effect: "That they cannot agree to commit themſelves, with the careleſs facility of a common addreſs of compliments, in expreſſions which may lead to meaſures, in the event, fatal to the lives, properties, and liberties, of a very great part of their fellow ſubjects; that the addreſs does, in effect, imply an approbation of the ſyſtem adopted with regard to the colonies in the laſt Parliament, which unfortunate ſyſtem, conceived with ſo little prudence, and purſued with ſo little temper, conſiſtency, or foreſight, they were in hopes would be at length abandoned, from an experience of the miſchiefs which it has produced, in proportion to the time in which it has continued, and the diligence with which it has been purſued, a ſyſtem which has created the utmoſt confuſion in the colonies, without any rational hope or advantage to the revenue, and with certain detriment to the commerce of the mother country; and that it affords them a melancholy proſpect of the diſpoſition of the Lords in the preſent Parliament, when they ſee the Houſe, under the preſſure of ſo ſevere and uniform an experience, again ready, without any inquiry, to countenance, if not to adopt, the ſpirit of the former fatal proceedings.

*** *The freeholders of* JAMES CITY *county are deſired to meet at the courthouſe, on* Monday, *the* 13*th inſtant, to chooſe their deputies to repreſent them at the* GENERAL CONVENTION *to be held in the town of* Richmond *the* 20*th of* March *next.*